



PATENT
0879-0244P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yutaka MAEDA
Application No.: 09/440,624 Group: 2851
Filed: November 16, 1999 Examiner: Not Assigned
For: ELECTRONIC CAMERA

LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

March 30, 2000

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following
co-pending U.S. Application(s):

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group</u>
09/120,140	July 22, 1998	2851

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. application may be
deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this
instant application.

The above-listed co-pending application is not to be construed as prior art. By bringing the
above-listed application to the attention of the Examiner, Applicants do NOT waive any
confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending application or this application. See MPEP
§ 101. Furthermore, if said application should not mature into patents, such application should be
preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2000
TECH 2800 MAIL ROOM

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APR -5 2000
TECH CENTER 2800

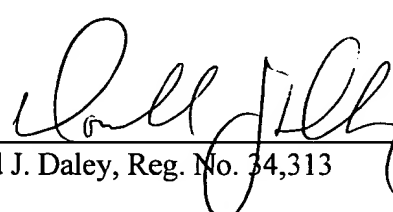
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


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DJD:kna
897-244P

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